

City of Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Services

2020 Spring/Summer League



Gather your former teammates, friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, start securing sponsors and

LET'S PLAY BALL!!

Kent, WA is the Place to Play!

WELCOME

Welcome to the City of Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services **2020** Spring/Summer Softball Program.

During this season, the City of Kent will offer organized leagues for Men's, Church, Mixed (coed) and Business teams.

As a coach or player, you will be participating in the popular sport of softball. This recreational program is provided for your fun and enjoyment. Your cooperation, good sportsmanship, and communication with our league office are important in making this program a success.

Included in this packet is information on "who, what, when, where, why and how much" for the upcoming spring/summer season. Please review the information. Additional information can be located on the Kent Parks web page at www.kentwa.gov/sportsleagues or by calling the recreation staff at 253-856-5000 or dropping by the Kent Commons Community Center at 525 4th Ave North, Kent, WA 98032.

Team managers/coaches: If you have changed, deleted or using a different mailing address, email address and/or phone number from last season, please contact the Kent Commons Community Center so we can update our database.

WHY PLAY KENT?

- ✓ 16+ games (14 league games and 2+ post season games for ALL teams)
- ✓ Field Supervisors (Scorekeepers) for all games (official scorebook, operate scoreboard, enforce league rules and observe teams and umpires)
- ✓ **Hogan Park @ Russell Road named USSSA "2019 Sports Park of the Year"**
- ✓ Championship caliber softball fields- maintained daily
- ✓ USSSA and USA/ASA dual registration for all teams
- ✓ Certified game officials – USSSA and USA/ASA
- ✓ Game balls, scorebooks and rule books
- ✓ Free pre-season practice fields for all registered teams
- ✓ Convenient location between Seattle and Tacoma
- ✓ All weather related cancellations rescheduled-guaranteeing 16+ games

Comments by teams/players from end of season survey....

- ❖ "League is well organized, the fields are the best around, the game times work well, and most umpires are fair."
- ❖ "Organized, clear instruction on rules and procedures."
- ❖ "You make a phone call and get an answer. A BIG PLUS."
- ❖ "League supplied Scorekeepers." "Well managed from top to bottom."
- ❖ "Generally good umpires, well organized, good fields-we always have a good time."
- ❖ "Enjoy the friends and always meeting new people to play the sport we all love."
- ❖ "Teams are friendly and good sports." "Convenient location to play."
- ❖ "Competition is generally even from league to league."
- ❖ "Everything. If Kent Parks wasn't the best place to play, I wouldn't be there."

2020 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

- **"EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT"**-\$100 League Fee discount if paid in full by February 24, 2020
- **Team Classification and Player "Tag" Classification-will determine league/division placement**
- Hogan Park @ Russell Road, Field Game Timers on all 5 fields
 - No more "perceived" games cut short on time. Field timers will "tell" the truth
- LED Lighting at all Kent Athletic Complexes in parking lots and walking paths
 - Improved park user safety and experience

Team Registration

In order to provide a quality program, there is a maximum limit on the number of teams that are allowed to play on City of Kent Parks, Recreation Services facilities each year. It is also very important that services be provided, first, to the Kent Community.

Teams are encouraged to register early. However, registration is not on a first come, first served basis.

Based on total number of teams registered, teams will be assigned to league/division/night of play based on the following priority system:

1. 60% of rostered players reside within the City of Kent or Kent School District service area.
2. 60% of the players work for a (single) business, registered within the City of Kent or Kent School District service area. Church teams must have 60% of players' active members/visitors of sponsoring church or combined churches. All church teams must have roster signed off by church administrator prior to league games starting and a second time prior to post season tournament.
3. Teams that participated in the 2019 spring/summer or early fall Kent softball seasons, and retain 60% of their rostered players.
4. Returning teams that do not meet any of the above requirements.
5. NEW teams that do not meet any of the above requirements.

Teams will be registered to play in the City of Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Services adult softball program upon receipt of league fee and meeting all eligibility requirements.

Registration Dates:

- January 6, 2020: Registration opens for all teams, returning and NEW teams.
- February 24, 2020: Registration closes for all teams.
- March 2, 2020: Registration will reopen based on available spots.

After the February 24th Registration deadline, teams will be placed into a league/division /night of play desired.

Full refund of fees will only be given if the league/division fills prior to your team being placed.



LEAGUE FEES

Teams will be charged a league fee that covers cost of umpires, field maintenance, field supervisors, field lights, game balls, association dues (duel sanctioning USSSA and USA/ASA), 14 league games, 2+ playoff games for ALL teams, trophies/awards, league administration and technology transactions fee.

"EARLY BIRD" LEAGUE DISCOUNT

Teams, who pay the league fee in full by February 24, will receive **\$100** discount off the \$1200 league fee, paying only \$1100.

FEES:



- League Fee: **\$1200.00** (fees have not increased in 4 years! ☺)
League Fee allows teams to have up to 15 players on roster. Teams needing more than 15 will be charged the extra player fee for each player over 15, not to exceed 20 total players.
- Extra Player Fee: **\$30.00**
Maximum roster size is 20 players, no exceptions.
- Technology Fee: **\$1.00, per transaction**
Each time your team makes a payment towards league fee, extra player fee, softballs, etc.; there will be a charge of \$1.00 for the transaction.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: (if League Fee is not paid in full, please use payment schedule)

- 1st Payment: **\$401.00**, due by February 24th
Payment will hold a spot for your team. Treated like a deposit.
- 2nd Payment: **\$401.00**, due by March 16th, Managers/Coaches Meeting
Payment will confirm your commitment to the league. **NO** refunds given after this payment is made.
- 3rd Payment: **\$401.00**, April 6th, game schedule release date
Game schedules will not be released until final payment has been made.

LEAGUE PLAY

2020 Spring/Summer league is tentatively scheduled to start the week of April 13-17, 2020.

- ✓ Each team will have **14** league games, and **ALL** teams will be seeded into a double elimination tournament (minimum of **2** additional games) to conclude the season.
- ✓ Monday-Thursday Night Leagues: teams will be scheduled for double headers, may have an occasional single game and/or split double header.
- ✓ Friday Night Leagues: teams will have all double headers for their schedules.
- ✓ Games will be played on the award winning fields, Hogan Park @ Russell Road Fields 1-5 and Service Club Ballfields 1 & 4.
- ✓ Game Times will be: 6:00, 7:15, 8:30 and 9:45 pm
- ✓ League play and playoff tournament is tentatively scheduled to be completed by end of June/early July. Weather permitting.

NEW - Team Classification Guidelines - NEW

Our goal has always been to place teams in leagues on the nights that they request and in a league in which they will be competitive.

However, it has been increasingly difficult to keep a competitive balance between teams from one league to another, limit the number of teams/players who "sandbag", and keep the game of softball as safe as possible.

Therefore, starting with the 2020 spring/summer season, we will be implementing a classification process for teams based on individual players' state/national ranking.

Men's Leagues:

A team may have no more than two players from a higher classification. Example: Two "C" players on a "D" team, or two "D" players on an "E" team. If a team has three or more higher classified players, team will be automatically reclassified to higher class. *See table below.*

Mixed (Coed) Leagues:

Teams will be limited to one male player and two female players from a higher classification. Example: Mixed Competitive Team will be allowed 1 "C" male player and two "B or C" female players. Intermediate League team will be allowed 1 "D" male player and two "C or D" female players. If a team has more than the allowed higher classified players, team will be automatically reclassified to higher class. *See table below.*

Player Classification:

A player will be classified based on the USSSA and USA/ASA State/National current and previous 2 year ranking (2018-2020).

Kent Parks Adult Softball Coordinator reserves the right to reclassify any team and/or player to a higher/lower classification after receiving feedback from field supervisors, umpires, teams and state associations.

Re-Class:

Team/Player may petition the league for a re-class. Requests must be submitted in writing and approved by the Softball Coordinator two days prior to player being allowed to play in a game of a lower classification.

Please register in the League/Division your team will be best suited for and when necessary we will use the Classification Format as a guideline for proper placement.

Kent Leagues	Level of Play	Max. Male Players	Max. Female Players
Men's International League	C	2 B Players	unlimited
Men's National League	D	2 C Players	unlimited
Men's Evergreen League	E	2 D Players	unlimited
Men's Continental League	Rec	2 E Players	unlimited
Men's Business League	E/Rec	2 D Players	unlimited
Church Competitive League	D & above	unlimited	unlimited
Church Recreational League	E & lower	2 D Players	unlimited
Mixed Competitive League	D & E+	1 C Player	2 B/C Players
Mixed Intermediate League	E & Rec+	1 D Player	2 C/D Players
Mixed Recreational League	Rec	1 E Player	2 D/E Players
Mixed Business League	E/Rec	1 E Player	2 D Players

+ = more competitive teams

Leagues Offered

The City of Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services will offer the following Softball Leagues/Divisions for the 2020 Spring/Summer Program:

Leagues/levels may be combined if not enough teams to separate levels of play. Every attempt will be made to separate levels of play. However, depending on number of teams registered, teams may be asked to move nights and/or combine with higher/lower levels. In each case, teams will be notified prior to final financial commitment.

Men's Programs:

- ✓ **Men's International League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71805
League is for the highly skilled player. Teams are generally classified as "C" teams. Homerun rule: 2-4 over the fence, then progressive (teams will vote prior to games starting). Games will be played on Tuesday Nights.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Men's National League (2 Divisions) 16 teams max** #71806
League is for the above average player. Teams are generally classified as "D" teams. Homerun rule: 2-4 over the fence, then progressive (teams will vote prior to games starting). Teams may request a primary playing night (Tuesday or Thursday). All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Men's Evergreen League (4 Divisions) 32 teams max** #71807
League is for the average player. Teams are generally classified as "E" teams. Homerun rule: 1 or 2 over the fence, then progressive (teams will vote prior to games starting). Teams may request a primary playing night (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday Night). All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Men's Continental League (4 Divisions) 32 teams max** #71808
League is for the recreational/novice player. Teams are generally classified as "REC" teams. Homerun rule: 1 over the fence, then progressive. Teams may request a primary playing night (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday Night). All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Men's Business League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71809
League is for the recreational teams and 60% of players work for sponsoring business. Teams are generally classified as "E" or "REC" teams. Games will be played on Tuesday Nights.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.

Church Programs:

- ✓ **Church Competitive League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71810
League is for the more competitive teams. 60% of the players must be active members/visitors of the sponsoring church and/or combined churches. Games will be played on Monday evenings.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Church Recreational League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71811
League is for recreational teams. 60% of the players must be active members/visitors of the sponsoring church and/or combined churches. Games will be played on Monday evenings.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.

Mixed (COED) Programs:

- ✓ **Mixed Competitive League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71812
League is for the more competitive teams, with above average players and who participate in weekend tournaments. Teams are generally classified as "D" or "E+" teams. Males bat strong sided, females use 11" softball. Games will be played on Friday Nights, but teams may be asked to play 1-2 "non-Friday" nights. Depend on the final registered mixed team totals.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Mixed Intermediate League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71813
League is for competitive "Rec" teams with average players. Teams are generally classified as "E and upper "Rec" teams. Males bat strong sided, females use 11" softball. Games will be played on Friday Nights, but teams may be asked to play 1-2 "non-Friday" nights. Depend on the final registered mixed team totals.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Mixed Recreational League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71814
League is for the recreational/novice teams. Teams are generally classified as lower "REC" teams. Males bat strong sided, females use 11" softball. Teams may request a primary playing night (Monday or Friday Night). Friday Night teams may be asked to play 1-2 "non-Friday" nights. Depend on the final registered mixed team totals.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.
- ✓ **Mixed Business League (1 Division) 8 teams max** #71815
League is for the recreational teams and 60% of players work for sponsoring business. Teams are generally classified as "E" or "REC" teams. Males bat strong sided, females use 11" softball. Games will be played on Friday Nights, but teams may be asked to play 1-2 "non-Friday" nights. Depend on the final registered mixed team totals.
All teams will be DUAL registered, USSSA and USA/ASA sanctioned.

In using City Park Facilities for any adult and youth community athletic program, as that term is defined in RCW 49.60.500, no group may discriminate in program participation on the basis of sex.

Rosters

All teams will be required to turn in a completed roster prior to first scheduled game (tentatively scheduled for April 13th week).

After your team has turned in their roster, teams may add/delete players by using a Player Registration Form. Deadline to add/delete players from roster will be prior to your 11th scheduled game.

The following items must be completed for a roster to be accepted:

- ✓ Team Name/Sponsor
- ✓ Players FIRST AND LAST name
- ✓ Players signature
- ✓ Contact info

Any falsification of roster information or use of illegal players will result in immediate team suspension from league, no refunds.

LOOKING FOR A TEAM OR PLAYERS?

If you're an individual that wants to play but have not found a team to play for, please contact the Recreation Office at (253) 856-5000 to have your name placed on a list of players looking for a team. Coaches/Managers in our league have access to this list. We cannot guarantee placement on a team.

MANAGERS'/COACHES MEETING

Prior to the season starting, all registered teams will be required to attend the Managers'/Coaches meeting. It is very important **ALL** teams have at least one representative in attendance to review the upcoming season.

- Meeting Date: Monday, March 16 (March 23 as back up date)
- Location: Kent Commons Community Center, East Gym –
525 4th Ave North, Kent
- Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

PRE SEASON - PRACTICE FIELD INFORMATION

Fields will be available for pre-season practices starting Wednesday March 18 – Friday April 10th.

Rental cost/times: Teams registered with the City of Kent Adult Softball League will not be charged a rental fee for use of fields/lights during the preseason. League entry fee covers cost.

- ❖ Monday-Friday: 4:00-5:30, 5:30-7:00, 7:00-8:30, 8:30-10:00 pm
- ❖ Saturday/Sunday: 9:00-10:30, 10:30-12:00, 12:00-1:30,
1:30-3:00, 3:00-4:30, 4:30-6:00 pm

More information will be available at the managers/coaches meeting scheduled for March 16th.

PLAYERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

The City of Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Services work hard to offer fun and competitive recreational sports leagues as a service and need for our community. We will not tolerate individuals, spectators or teams jeopardizing our commitment to this service.

Every player/coach/spectator participating in the City of Kent Adult Softball Program will be responsible to abide by the "Player Code of Conduct" and rules/regulations set for the 2020 Spring/Summer League.

SPORTSMANSHIP "IT'S A SPORT!" "BE A SPORT!"

OTHER SOFTBALL PROGRAMS

Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services offer a 2nd Season Softball Program.

Registration begins late May. Season generally scheduled late July thru early September.

11+ games (10 league games and single elimination post season for ALL teams).

Please contact the Kent Commons Building for more information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you need additional information, please stop by the Kent Commons Building located at 525 4th Avenue North, Kent or give us a call at (253) 856-5000.

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Program Coordinator: David E. Heldt
Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Services
Kent Commons Community Center
525 4th Ave North, Kent, WA 98032

Office: 253-856-5000 FAX: 253-856-6000
Rainout Line: 253-856-5020, press 1
Email: dheldt@KentWa.gov
Webpage: www.KentWa.gov/sportsleagues

Kent, WA is the Place to Play!